

Tipaskan School

Live Learn Lead

PARENT HANDBOOK 2025-2026



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is our pleasure to welcome you to Tipaskan School for the school year. If your child is returning to our school, we look forward to continuing our relationship with your family. If you are new to Tipaskan, you have chosen a great school.

Our staff are welcoming, caring and inclusive and have high expectations for students, socially and academically. Furthermore, we welcome diversity and understand that all students have their own unique gifts and talents. In our positive environment, students and staff are able to flourish and fulfill their potential.

At Tipaskan School our motto is to:

LIVE – with joy and integrity

LEARN - with wonder and engagement

LEAD - with creativity, compassion and community spirit

Staff and students strive to embody these values every day. We are committed to building relationships with parents and operating in a climate of mutual respect and trust. Therefore, we welcome parental input and assistance and we invite you to become engaged and actively involved in your child's learning. Please check SchoolZone for regular updates regarding your child's education.

We are pleased to provide the following programming:

- Full day Kindergarten, which is supported by the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation
- Literacy programming that includes Literacy Intervention
- Grades K to 6 programming which follows the Alberta provincial curriculum, including French as a Second Language
- Interactions program is designed to meet the needs of students who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Multiple community school partnerships
- Modern technology – SMART boards in classes, access to Chromebooks and iPads
- As an APPLE school we promote healthy lifestyle choices for all of our Tipaskan community
- Student leadership opportunities build and create a welcoming and diverse environment in which our students can be comfortable to grow to their potential

In order to maintain regular contact with you, we require you to keep your contact information up to date through SchoolZone. If you need assistance with accessing SchoolZone, please contact the school office. Thank you, I look forward to working with all of you this year.

If you have any questions, or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me, or your child's teacher.

Learning Together,
Sherry Holmes-Principal
Tipaskan School

2025-2026 DIVISION CALENDAR

AUGUST

August 28	NO SCHOOL-Professional Development
August 29	NO SCHOOL-Operational Day-No Students

SEPTEMBER

September 1	NO SCHOOL -Public Holiday-Labour Day
September 2	First Day of Classes for Students
September 30	NO SCHOOL -Public Holiday

OCTOBER

October 13	NO SCHOOL -Public Holiday-Thanksgiving
October 20	NO SCHOOL -Professional Development

NOVEMBER

November 11	NO SCHOOL -Remembrance Day
November 12	NO SCHOOL - Board Approved Non-Instructional Day
November 13	NO SCHOOL - Board Approved Non-Instructional Day
November 14	NO SCHOOL -Teacher's Day in Lieu

DECEMBER

December 22 to January 2	NO SCHOOL -Winter Break
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JANUARY

January 28	NO SCHOOL -Professional Development
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FEBRUARY

February 16	NO SCHOOL -Public Holiday-Family Day
February 17	NO SCHOOL -Professional Development
February 26-27	NO SCHOOL -Teacher's Convention

MARCH

March 20	NO SCHOOL-Professional Development
March 30-April 2	NO SCHOOL -Spring Break

APRIL

April 3	NO SCHOOL -Good Friday
April 6	NO SCHOOL -Easter Monday

MAY

May 18	NO SCHOOL -Public Holiday-Victoria Day
May 27	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development
May 28	NO SCHOOL - Teachers' Day in Lieu
May 29	NO SCHOOL-Board Approved Non-Instructional Day

JUNE

June 23	Last Day of Classes
June 24	NO SCHOOL -Operational Day-No Students

welcome ...To Tipaskan School



SCHOOL HOURS OF OPERATION

Kindergarten – Grade 6	Monday, Tuesday Wednesday, Friday	Thursday (Early Dismissal)
Supervision begins	8:25 a.m.	✓
Bell rings for students to enter	8:30 a.m.	✓
Instruction begins	8:33 a.m.	✓
Recess-AM	10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	✓
		✓
Lunch-Outside Break	11:35–11:55 a.m. - Gr's-K, 1, 2 and 3	✓
Eat Lunch	11:35-11:55 a.m. - Gr's-4, 5 and 6	✓
Lunch-Outside Break	11:55-12:15 p.m. - Gr's-4, 5 and 6	✓
Eat Lunch	11:55-12:15 p.m. - Gr's-K, 1, 2 and 3	✓
Instruction begins	12:18 p.m.	✓
Recess-PM	2:00 – 2:15 p.m.	No Recess
Dismissal	3:21 p.m.	2:21 p.m.
Interactions Program	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	Thursday (Early Dismissal)
Instruction-begins same as Kindergarten-Grade 6	Daily Dismissal 2:31 p.m.	2:21 p.m.

DIVISION STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2022-2026

The [Division Strategic Plan 2022-26](#) was developed by the Board of Trustees with feedback from students, families and staff. The plan is our roadmap for the next four years. It outlines our focus and our goals as a school division. Our Vision for the next four years is "Enhancing pathways for student success." Our Cornerstone Values of accountability, collaboration, equity and integrity continue to be the foundation of our work.

The Strategic Plan 2022–2026 builds on work the Division has done over the past number of years. Our priorities under the new plan are to:

- Build on outstanding learning opportunities for all students
- Advance action towards anti-racism and reconciliation
- Promote a comprehensive approach to student and staff well-being and mental health

Tipaskan Priorities

The following goals have been established

- **Division Priority 1 Goal - Build on outstanding learning opportunities for all students**
 - Tipaskan students will demonstrate measurable growth in Literacy and Numeracy
- **Division Priority 2 Goal – Advance actions towards anti-racism and reconciliation.**
- **Division Priority 3 Goal – Promote a comprehensive approach to student and staff well-being and mental health**
 - Tipaskan students and staff will continue to engage in meaningful learning activities focused on integrative anti-racism and reconciliation, and mental health to increase sense of belonging and safety in our school.

Vision

Enhancing pathways for student success

Mission

Our commitment to high-quality public education serves the community and empowers each student to live a life of dignity, fulfilment, empathy and possibility.

Values

Accountability, collaboration, equity and integrity

2022–26

Division Priorities

Priority 1

Build on outstanding learning opportunities for all students.

Priority 2

Advance action towards anti-racism and reconciliation.

Priority 3

Promote a comprehensive approach to student and staff well-being and mental health.

Strategic actions

Priority 1: Build on outstanding learning opportunities for all students.

Outcome: The growth and success of every student is supported throughout their journey from early learning to high school completion and beyond.

The Division walks alongside students on their Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 journey towards the goal of high school completion and a life of dignity and fulfilment through the following actions:

Goal 1. Recognize and support the diverse learning needs of all students

- Provide targeted professional learning and resources that support teachers in the implementation of the new curriculum.
- Refine the Individual Program Planning process as a means to monitor for student growth and enhance collaborative goal setting with families.
- Support a range of programming choices for families through ongoing engagement and the monitoring of enrolment data.

Goal 2. Focus on literacy and numeracy so students demonstrate growth and achieve learning outcomes

- Examine data and implement interventions, professional learning and resources that have the greatest impact on student growth.
- Implement Year 2 of the Equity Achievement Project, including an analysis of findings from Year 1 of the project.

Goal 3. Promote competencies to empower students to meet the needs of a changing society, workforce and climate

- Enhance innovative, experiential learning opportunities that encourage all students to think about, explore and plan for the future.
- Engage students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 to self-reflect and set goals that develop their skills, increase their awareness of career pathways and support their readiness to transition to life beyond high school.
- Build students' awareness and understanding of climate change through curriculum, learning resources and experiential learning opportunities.

Measures

Alberta Education

Assurance Measures

- Provincial Achievement Tests
- Diploma exams
- Graduations rates
- Rutherford Scholarships
- 3 & 5 year completion rates
- Student, parent, teacher Assurance Survey

Local Measures

- Division Feedback Survey
- Stakeholder voice: Students, families, staff
- CAT4
- Internal assessment measures
- Literacy and Math Readiness Screeners
- Resilience Survey
- myBlueprint information

Priority 2: Advance action towards anti-racism and reconciliation.

Outcome: Authentic and meaningful progress advancing towards anti-racism and reconciliation.

Goal 1. Work with students, staff, families and communities to update and advance the Division's Anti-racism and Equity Action Plan each year, so it serves as the catalyst for meaningful, long-term systemic change

- Support the Division's intentional efforts towards anti-racism through an annual cycle of goal setting, monitoring and reporting on progress.
- Engage with staff, students, families and members of the community to help support and inform the Division's work and commitment towards anti-racism.

Goal 2. Support and enhance the educational experiences and achievements of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students in relationship with First Nations, Métis and Inuit families and communities

- Implement evidence-based practices to support continuous improvement and enhance the achievement of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.
 - Active focus on student outcomes, responsive to student needs and resourceful in putting in place the necessary educational provisions.
 - High expectations for all students, respectful relationships with students and relevant and responsive curriculum delivery.
 - Provision of tailored support in needed areas, in addition to (not instead of) regular classroom instruction.
 - Welcome and engage with families to improve student success.
 - Regular monitoring of each child's progress and timely actions in response to this information.
- Evaluate the self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit High School Completion Coach model through the lens of student growth and progress towards high school completion.

Measures

Alberta Education Assurance Measures

- Provincial Achievement Tests
- Diploma exams
- Graduations rates
- Rutherford Scholarships
- 3 & 5 year completion rates
- Student, parent, teacher Assurance Survey

Local Measures

- Division Feedback Survey
- Stakeholder voice: Students, families, staff
- Resilience Survey
- Attendance data
- Course Completion

Priority 3: Promote a comprehensive approach to student and staff well-being and mental health

Outcome: Student and staff well-being is intentionally supported through access to a variety of resources and supports.

Goal 1. Support students and staff in building skills, strategies and relationships that contribute to positive mental health

- Implement evidence-based approaches and practices intended to enhance student and staff well-being.
- Continue to provide opportunities for schools and central units to build upon their capacity to support student resilience.

Goal 2. Support students and staff so they experience a greater sense of belonging and social, emotional and physical well-being

- Continue to engage with staff, students and families to better understand how to enhance learning environments and school communities that support a sense of belonging and success for all students.
- Enhance collaboration with partners to inform the strategic use of Division and community resources in support of student and staff well-being.

Measures

Alberta Education Assurance Measures

- Student, parent, teacher Assurance Survey

Local Measures

- Division Feedback Survey
- Resilience survey

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Tipaskan School is a safe and caring community where students and staff are engaged in their learning and striving toward personal excellence.

This is achieved through:

- quality teaching and meaningful learning experiences
- integrating technology practices across the curriculum
- developing strong citizenship
- celebrating diversity
- promoting a healthy, active lifestyle for students and staff
- working partnership with community stakeholders

Please see SchoolZone or Tipaskan's website for the Rights and Responsibility Plan:

Student Rights and Responsibility Plan: School Website - <http://tipaskan.epsb.ca/>

WELCOME TO SCHOOLZONE

SchoolZone: Enhances the communication between school and home.

SchoolZone: Is a secure website that provides parents and students with information.

Get quick access to school essentials such as homework, progress reports, attendance records and school and division updates.

What can you look forward to:

- a site designed for desktops, smartphones and tablets
- finding information faster and easier
- the ability to pin SchoolZone to the home screen of your device



FINDING INFORMATION FASTER AND EASIER:

- information organized more intuitively using drop-down menus
- a clean, modern design for easier navigation

GETTING MORE SPECIFIC NOTIFICATIONS ABOUT WHAT'S NEW:

- notification emails include details about the updated section and title of the post
- a display of how many updates have been added since you last signed in

ACCESSING SCHOOLZONE'S CLASSIC KEY FEATURES, INCLUDING:

- updated school news and events
- homework
- attendance records
- progress reports/lpp's
- pre-enrolment for next year
- online forms-Media Consent, Lunch Registration, Technology, e4c, Correction form
- school council meetings
- assessment plans for grades K-6
- parent handbook
- school supply lists



LET'S GET STARTED...

What to do?

SchoolZone lets you reset your password. First, you need to set up a security question to give you access to reset your password

Make sure your email address is up-to-date in SchoolZone. That's how we'll let you know when something has been added

Bookmark the website for quick access

You can also pin the website to your smartphone or tablet home screen for quick access

How to do it?

Set up your security question under your **accounting settings**

Check your email address under your **account settings** and select **Edit Email Address**

Open schoolzone.epsb.ca and bookmark the page through your browser settings



Open schoolzone.epsb.ca the steps involved will vary depending on the device and browser you're using.

Which website browser should you use?

For the best SchoolZone experience, make sure you're using the most up-to-date version of your preferred browser. If you're using Google tools like Gmail and Google Drive, we recommend using Chrome.

Merge Accounts

Parents may have more than one SchoolZone account if they have children attending other EPS schools. In order to view information for all your children using only one SchoolZone ID and password, you may want to merge your accounts.

1. Login to SchoolZone account you wish to keep
2. Select the MY ACCOUNT tab
3. Select  Merge My Accounts
4. Click the  button
5. In the text box(es) that appear, type your **other** SchoolZone ID and password

SchoolZone Account:
SchoolZone Password:
6. Click (Next)
7. A message will confirm that the account you entered on the previous screen will be deleted
8. Your children with SchoolZone accounts will appear, indicating that their information will be accessible now from the account only.
9. Click **(Finish)**
10. A confirmation message will appear; click **(OK)**

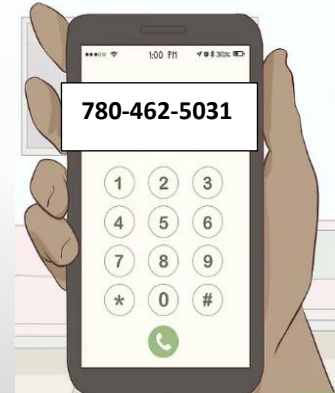
ACCURATE CONTACT INFORMATION

SCHOOLS REQUIRE ACCURATE CONTACT INFORMATION:

We want to ensure that we continue our ability to communicate effectively with our families.

Please contact Tipaskan School @ 780-462-5031 to provide any changes:

- ✓ To all phone numbers, addresses, custody and emergency contacts, or email addresses.
- ✓ Note changes can be made on SchoolZone eg. online forms



We are pleased to provide a safe, caring, and welcoming learning environment at Tipaskan.



LIVE
WITH JOY AND INTEGRITY
LEARN
WITH WONDER AND ENGAGEMENT
LEAD
WITH CREATIVITY, COMPASSION
AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT



ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL AT SCHOOL

To support the safety of all students as staff prepare for the beginning of the day, students are required to report to their outside, designated entrance where their teacher will greet them at **8:30 a.m.** arrival and at **12:15 p.m.** when entering the school after lunch. Supervision is NOT provided to students prior to 8:25 a.m. The front entrance is to be used by visitors and students requiring additional support ONLY. ALL PARENTS ARE TO GO TO THEIR CHILD(REN'S) DESIGNATED DOOR FOR PICK-UP DURING **DISMISSAL 3:21 p.m.** AND DURING **EARLY DISMISSAL (THURSDAY) AT 2:21 p.m.**

SECURITY

In an effort to keep students safe, ALL exterior doors of Tipaskan will be locked at all times.

All parents, caregivers and visitors must enter the school through the front entrance and will only be permitted once permission is granted through the intercom system and must report to the office.

Student Sign-Out

Students leaving during the school day must be picked up by their parents/guardians **by the school office.** Parents/guardians must sign their child out using the sign-out book located in the front foyer. **No student will be allowed to leave school early without being accompanied by a parent/guardian or designated adult.**

EMERGENCY PLAN

In case of an emergency (fire, water main break, etc.) where our school must be evacuated, we have made arrangements for our students to walk to **Grace Martin School (8210 - 36 Ave).** It is our sincere hope that we never have to implement this plan.

In case of emergency during the lunch hour or the end of the school day parents will be contacted by either the school or The Division regarding the dismissing of their child(ren). Please know, students will not be permitted to leave the school unless signed out and accompanied by a parent/guardian or designated adult.



EMERGENCIES AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

In an emergency, we may communicate with you in a number of ways. Sometimes emergencies happen at schools. To help everyone remain calm and act quickly in an urgent situation, each school has detailed plans that students and staff

practice regularly throughout the year.

LEARN ABOUT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- Ask to see the emergency plans, which are available in the school office.
- Review parent handbooks to find out where to meet your child after an emergency.
- Talk to the principal for more information.

INFORMATION IN AN EMERGENCY

In an emergency, we may communicate with you in a number of ways.

Emergency Message System	Our Division has an emergency message system called SchoolMessenger that can call and text you when there is a major emergency at your child's school. The system is already set up to send you voice messages, but we need your permission to contact you by text. Learn about how to sign up to get emergency texts from SchoolMessenger .
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SchoolZone	In an emergency, school staff will be focused on keeping students safe. Schools may share an update on SchoolZone after the emergency is over and everyone is safe.
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Media and Social Media	For major emergencies, information may also be shared on the District's Facebook and Twitter accounts, and through local media.
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HELP KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE IN AN EMERGENCY

- **Don't call the school.** Too many calls can overload the phone system and prevent emergency workers from making timely contact with the school.
- **Don't call or text your child.** In a lockdown, staff and students stay out of sight and keep quiet because there is an immediate threat to the school. A ringing or vibrating phone can reveal your child's location.
- **Don't go to the school.** Extra vehicles and people in the area can make it difficult for emergency workers to do their jobs. We will tell you if we need you to come to the school or an alternate location.

REUNITING WITH YOUR CHILD AFTER AN EMERGENCY

- Most emergencies don't last long and are resolved before the school day ends.
- **If it's the end of the school day and an emergency has just ended,** school staff and/or emergency workers will be at the school and tell you where to go to meet your child. If your child takes the bus, you will be notified if the bus is on time or late. If your child walks home, staff will take necessary precautions to ensure your child is safe leaving the site.
- **In some emergencies, your child's class and teacher will go to an alternate safe site.** If that happens, you will be notified about where to go to pick up your child. Sign out procedures will be in place - your child must be picked up by a parent, guardian or another adult.

TYPES OF EMERGENCIES

ALERT

A threat is outside the school. All exterior doors are locked. There are no outside activities. Classes continue as normal.

LOCKDOWN

Lockdowns happen when there is an immediate threat to the school. All interior doors are locked. Staff and students keep quiet and stay out of sight. If staff and students are on a field trip, they will go to an alternate safe site instead of returning to the school. Students will not be released from the school until emergency responders say it is safe.

EVACUATION

Schools may be evacuated during a fire, flood or explosion. They may also be evacuated due to a bomb threat. All staff, students and visitors immediately leave the building and proceed to the school's meeting place. Everyone either stays at the meeting place or moves to an alternate safe site. Staff, students and visitors return to the building only after emergency responders say it is safe.

TORNADO ALERT

Staff and students inside the building go to pre-designated shelter areas, which are usually interior hallways on the lowest floor of a building. If the school is damaged and it is safe to go outside, staff, students and visitors may be evacuated.

NUT SAFE SCHOOL

THIS SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE



THANK YOU
for keeping our school safe!

Nut allergies can result in a severe reaction, or even death. Decreasing the presence of nut products will help keep children with severe allergies safe at school. Eating nuts (or foods containing traces of nuts) can leave residue on your hands and face, which can contaminate shared areas of the school.

Please help to ensure that all areas in the school are safe for all students.

- Read the labels – don't bring any foods that contain nuts, such as: peanuts, almonds, walnuts, etc.
- Don't take chances – sharing food between friends is risky business. How would you know if it was safe? The best policy is: don't trade food!
- Wash your hands and face – when you eat foods that contain nuts, wash thoroughly so you do not bring any nut residue into the contact of students who have nut allergies.

We teach students with nut allergies to be responsible in staying away from nut products as they do not live in a NUT FREE world. At the same time, we also teach all other students the severe consequences of nut allergies, and encourage them not to bring foods containing nut products to school.

MEDICATION ADMINISTERED STUDENTS

As a Division, we're responsible for administering medication safely and correctly to students who need prescription or non-prescription medication.

Parents and guardians can ask school staff to administer a student's prescription medication or that the student self-administer their medication.



The principal, in consultation with the student's parent or guardian, is responsible for:

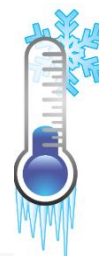
- deciding whether or not school staff will administer the medication
 - ensuring all the appropriate documentation is filled out
 - storing medication securely and ensuring appropriate access
 - administering the medication or supervising a school staff member to administer the medication.
- . The principal shall require a signed request from the parent and physician indicating the type of medication (in original bottle) to be administered, required dosage and action to be taken in the event of possible hazards or side effects."

Authorization for Administration of Medication forms are available in the school office or SchoolZone and **must be completed by a doctor...**
EACH TIME A PRESCRIPTION IS PRESCRIBED TO YOUR CHILD

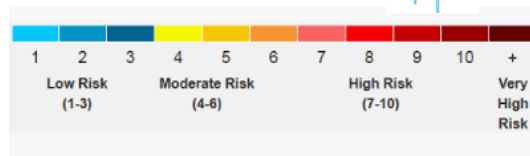


INCLEMENT WEATHER/RECESS/LUNCH RECESS

During inclement weather (**-23 C or heavy rain**) recess will be held inside. Children are given a short break in doors and dismissal will be at the regular time. Please encourage your child to dress warmly and always to be prepared for weather changes.



Air Quality Health-As per administrative regulation and based on Health Canada, when the index is 7 or higher individuals are recommended to reduce or end strenuous activities-students will be kept inside. Students arriving to school are to go to their designated door and their teacher will let them in the school during inclement weather.



ATTENDANCE

Student Attendance Expectations and Absence

Reasons

Edmonton Public Schools strongly encourages students to attend school regularly and punctually in order to enhance the likelihood of successful learning. The *School Act* provides the provincial expectations related to student attendance at school and defines what reasons may legitimately keep students away from school. Section 13(5) of this act excuses a student from attending school

only if due to **sickness, religious holidays, suspension, expulsion, permission from the Board, or other unavoidable circumstances**. You may access a copy of this section of the *School Act* from the Edmonton Public Schools website (www.epsb.ca).

Please note that family holidays, extension of school vacation periods, student work schedules, or parental permission given to a student to stay away from school are not considered to be excused absences. If a student is chronically absent from school for “unexcused” reasons, the school may be required to refer the student to the Attendance Board.

For the 2024-2025 school year all schools in Edmonton Public Schools will use the following set of district-wide student absence reasons that align with the *School Act*:

Absence Reason	Example of Use	School Act Interpretation
Absent	No reason given	Unexcused
Confirmed Absent	School notified with reason not conforming to School Act excused	Unexcused
Illness	Student is sick	Excused
Other Medical	Any medical/dental other than illness	Excused
Religious Holiday	Day is holiday in student's religion	Excused
Bereavement	Death in family	Excused
Transportation Issue	Bus not running or late	Excused

Holidays During Scheduled Instructional Time

The school year has been organized so as to provide for natural breaks and holidays for students. The demands of the curriculum are such that if a child were to miss a significant period of instructional time, this could have an impact on their achievement for that year. While travel provides wonderful opportunities for learning, it is important to understand the educational ramifications of that decision. Parents who take their children out of school to go on an extended trip are choosing to home school their child for that period of time and the parent (s) are responsible for their child's educational programming. It is also important to note that depending on the timing and length of the absence, there may be insufficient information collected to enable the teacher to provide a valid evaluation of their child's progress report and achievement during that particular term.

Students arriving late for School

Students who arrive late for school (after 8:35 a.m.) must enter through the front doors. **The student(s) will be welcomed by staff, signed in by a staff member and escorted to their class.** The office will mark the child as late...this eliminates phone calls made from school to the parent.



Illness and Extended Student Absence

Parents will be contacted if a child becomes ill during the day or needs to go home because of an emergency. If holidays or trips require that students be absent during the school year, please notify the school. However, we discourage this as students' academic achievement suffers from the absences.

- Any students who are to be excused from school prior to regular dismissal time (e.g., doctor, dentist appointments, etc.) will be met by their parents/guardians in the front foyer. **Parents/guardians are required to sign their child out in the sign-out book located in the front foyer.**
- **No student will be allowed to leave school early without a note or call from a parent/guardian/caregiver.**

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

At Tipaskan School programs of instruction are offered to children from Kindergarten to year six. All required curricular subjects are taught and there is a major academic focus on *literacy and numeracy*. We strive to:

- provide an environment designed to enable a child to develop to his/her potential
- create a climate that encourages risk taking
- allow children individual choices for their own learning
- reach prescribed curricular goals
- focus on learning rather than teaching
- focus on process rather than product

Our school is based on an Inclusive School philosophy which states that all students are to be viewed as individuals with specific strengths and needs. Our instruction is designed to meet those strengths and needs for every child in our school. School staff along with parents form a learning team that meets

together to establish an Individual Program Plan (IPP) for the student. Any adaptations to curriculum and learning objectives are carefully monitored to ensure ongoing success. Student strengths are celebrated and further developed to bring about further learning.



Kindergarten -Full day At Tipaskan, kindergarten children are encouraged to learn through play - exploring and experimenting with their environments. Our full day program provides students with many enhanced opportunities to build a strong base of oral language, social, literacy and fine motor skills.



French as a Second Language - French as a second language is taught to all Grades 4, 5 and 6 students. The primary method used in class is the AIM (Accelerated

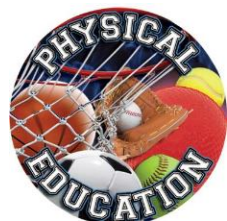
Integrated Method) Language Learning approach. A key component of this method is the Gesture Approach used to teach the high frequency vocabulary that is essential in the oral acquisition of French. The result is students speaking more of the time and not just the teacher.

There is an equal emphasis on the development of all four language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) meeting the needs of all language learners. Activities are varied, so the students have the opportunity to work individually, in partners, small groups and the whole class. Students often work in pairs or small groups to develop dramatic scenes that they share in class and receive feedback in order to grow. A variety of games are also introduced. Here the students are using the language, learning and having fun.



Technology - As Edmonton Public Schools and the world starts to look ahead at what it means to be a 21st century learner, we have taken steps to give your child the skills they will need to solve 21st century problems! Thanks to our Tipaskan Parent Advisory Association, the school has purchased more Chromebooks to be used in the classrooms. Imagine the vast amount of information your child now has access to

sitting at their very own desk. Students also learn the importance of being a responsible digital citizen. Using technology safely and appropriately and following school guidelines and conduct policy is an essential skill within the 21st century. Using the school district portal also allows students to work on assignments at home. **SchoolZone** provides quick online access to homework assignments, calendars and organizational tools for our Division Two students. At Tipaskan School, we believe that technology can be a powerful tool to enhance learning, enabling students to access information and collaborate with others locally and globally. We believe that all students, staff and parents must be good digital citizens by following standards of acceptable use when using technology (software, hardware, internet) for school purposes while enrolled at Tipaskan.



Physical Education - Our physical education program follows a school wide coordinated plan. Our plan is an integral part of our APPLE School initiative as we promote a healthy active lifestyle. Tipaskan promotes lifelong physical activity

through the learning of skills and games that will allow our students to participate throughout their lives.



Music Program Music is experienced with a hands-on approach through singing, playing instruments, movement, music games, and dance. The music program consists of 90 minutes of instruction per week for Grades one to six with the Kindergarten receiving 60 minutes. The Grades four to six students play the recorder and ukuleles. All grades having the opportunity to play the Orff instruments. A Winter Concert is planned for December in which the whole school participates.

Interactions Program-This program is designed to address the needs of students who have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. A range of disabilities fall under this program but most apparent are the difficulties these students may have with behaviour and/or communications skills.

It is our intent to make this program an integral part of the school culture. This program brings us a level of expertise that will allow us to work with all students who are experiencing behavioural and communication difficulties. Parents are active members of the learning team. An Individual Program Plan is developed with the learning team each year.



Library - Our library is a special learning centre with many books for children and resources for staff to use.

At Tipaskan, we believe it is important to foster within the children a love for reading, a respect for books, and a responsible attitude toward using the library. Children use the library throughout the day to exchange books, research projects, and read materials.

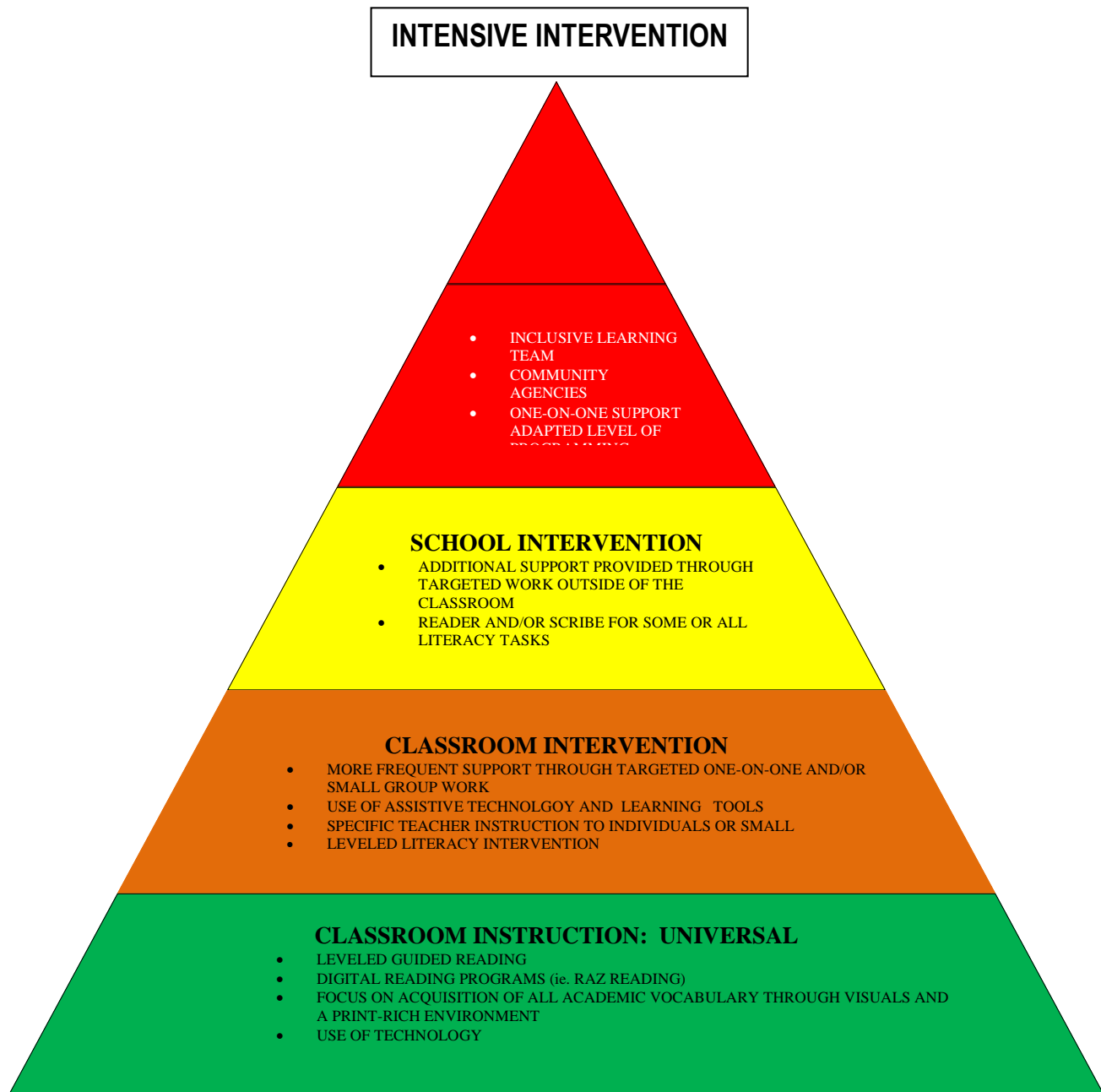
Since students may sign out and return books, we recommend they borrow only what they can handle. The computer sign-out is set for:

K - Yr. 2 -- one book at a time
Yr. 3 - 6 -- two books at a time

Books are loaned for one week at a time but may be renewed if more time is needed to complete them.

If books are damaged or need repair, children should inform the librarian so that the appropriate repairs can be made. Children will be charged for lost or severely damaged books. **New books, which are lost, may be assessed at replacement cost.** If books are found at a later date, the money will be refunded.

Literacy-Pyramid of Interventions



The Four Tier Intervention Pyramid is part of the Collaborative Response Model. We use it to clearly communicate the interventions we use to meet student needs. These interventions take place both within the classroom and outside of the classroom. By establishing this school wide Pyramid of Interventions, Tipaskan School can ensure that we respond collaboratively to support students.



TIPASKANS SCHOOL'S NUTRITION POLICY

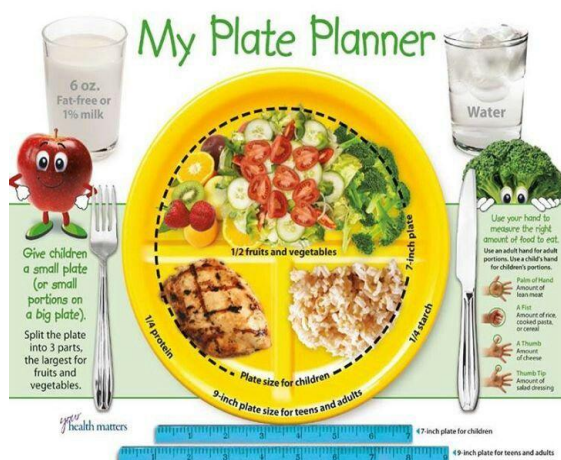
Why a Nutrition Policy?

As a health promoting school, Tipaskan aims to “make the healthy choice the easy choice.” It is important to provide healthy living choices for the students, families and staff of our school.

We know that healthy students learn better and by following our nutrition policy we will strive to provide nutritious foods to the students and staff of our community.

We want to have a positive effect on the future of our students and will now only serve food from Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth’s “Choose Most Often” category or from Tipaskan’s ‘Top Notch’ snacks list.

From more information on our nutrition policy, or the Edmonton Public School Policy on Nutrition, please visit our school website at <http://tipaskan.epsb.ca> or contact the school at 780-462-5031.



What Can You Do As Parents?

You can do a lot as a parent to support the health initiative at our school by:

- Sending only healthy treats from the “Choose Most Often” category, Tipaskan’s Top Notch Snack List. Sending healthy choices at lunch time and for snacks.
- Promoting healthy eating at home by including some “Choose Most Often” foods at every meal.

Tipaskan's Top Notch Snacks List

Choose Most Often: Daily Snacks	Choose Sometimes: Twice A Week Snacks
Fresh fruit or vegetables	Crunchy snack mix (dried cereal, air popped popcorn)
Canned fruit cup packaged in water or 100% Juice	Yogurt tube or container of flavored yogurt
Chewy snack mix (dried fruit)	Whole wheat crackers & cheese
Applesauce Cup	Cut up fruit chunks with yogurt as dip
Smoothie with milk, ice & fruit	Smoothie with milk, yogurt & fruit
Frozen Grapes	Whole wheat pita & hummus
Celery with pea butter & raisins	Yogurt & nut free granola
Dried fruit bar	Goldfish crackers
Milk (2%, 1% or skim)	
Cheese strings	

What Other Foods Fit?

Choose Most Often foods that are nutritious foods that fit within Canada's Food Guide.

Some examples of foods that fit are:

- ✓ fruit-fresh, frozen, canned (in water or juice) pureed or dried
- ✓ vegetables-fresh, or frozen
- ✓ low-fat white milk - low-fat cheese
- ✓ plain low-fat yogurt
- ✓ whole grain bread products, wraps, crackers
- ✓ low-fat, low-sodium meat-turkey, ham, fish, beef
- ✓ beans and legumes-lentils, chickpeas, nuts, hummus
- ✓ eggs



<https://food-guide.canada.ca>



SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Alberta Health Services (AHS)

AHS works together with parents, schools and community agencies to provide a range of coordinated community health services for school-age children and their families. Our common goal is to improve students' health and learning outcomes. Various health services are provided by registered nurses, dental hygienists, speech and language practitioners. If you would like to talk to your school's nurse, please call the Mill Woods Public Health Centre @ 780 413-5685.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND CANNABIS POLICY

Board Policy HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct (Section 2.f) states that the "possession, use or distribution of substances restricted by the federal, provincial, municipal, District or school authorities" is considered to be unacceptable behavior. Alcohol, tobacco, tobacco-like products and cannabis are considered to be restricted substances for all students in Edmonton Public Schools.



In 1998 the Edmonton Public School Board banned the use of tobacco products on school property, specifically buildings and grounds. In 2002 the Alberta Government launched the Alberta Tobacco Reduction Strategy followed by the Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use Act in 2003.

Schools have been charged with enforcing these laws and regulations. At Tipaskan School we are doing this on two fronts.

- First, we are enforcing the ban on tobacco products on school property.
- Second, we are responsible for teaching students about the problems involved in tobacco use at grade 3 and particularly at grade 4. In addition, literature on how to quit smoking will be available by the office for anyone interested in addressing this addiction.

We *Believe* in YOU!

We **BELIEVE** in your **SMART THINKING** to Learn and Grow

We **BELIEVE** in your **AWESOME SKILLS** to Shine Another Way

We **BELIEVE** in your **TRUE COURAGE** to Reach Out and Ask for Help

We **BELIEVE** in your **GREAT ATTITUDE** to Trust the Lows and Highs

We **BELIEVE** in your **PLAYFUL HEART** to Find the Friends you Love

We **BELIEVE** in your **BRAVE SPIRIT** that's in You all Along!

BELIEVE

SCHOOL FEES FOR 2025-2026

What does this mean for you and your family?



While some school fees still remain, as of September, you won't have to pay for some things you've previously paid for. The new rules will also bring more clarity to what you're paying for; you'll know where your money is going for things like field trips, supplies, extra curricular activities, etc.

What can be charged?

More information for families will be available for school startup, but here's a quick snapshot of what families **can** and **cannot** be charge for:



Schools **cannot** charge fees for:

- Textbooks
- Workbooks
- Photocopying or printing paper



Schools **can** charge fees for:

- Refundable textbook deposits
- Agendas (optional)
- Lunch supervision
- Alternative programs
- Optional (complementary) courses
- Activities like field trips
- Extracurricular activities (clubs, sports teams, intramurals)
- Non-curricular supplies (locks, Kanga pouches, at-home study keys, graduation gown rental, Student Union, fitness centre access, etc.)
- Other optional goods and services, such as cafeteria sales or hot lunch programs, special events, graduation banquets, yearbooks, school photos, lost item replacement, photocopy/printer cards, etc.

TRANSPORTATION FEES 2025-2026

Paid transportation fees

Families will still be required to pay for transportation fees for the following students:

- Those who live less than 2.4 kilometres from their designated school.
- Those who enrol at a school that's not their designated school. This includes students attending schools of choice and alternative programs, including immersion programs.
- Travelling distance is calculated by using road files from the City of Edmonton.

Waived fees for students who use yellow bus service



If your child uses **yellow bus service** and meets the following criteria, your transportation fees will be waived:

- Students who attend their designated school and reside at least 2.4 kilometres away.
- Students who attend a District Centre special needs program or an inclusive setting at their designated school.



Reduced fees for students who use Edmonton Transit Services (ETS)

If your child uses Edmonton Transit Service (ETS) to get to school and meets the following criteria, your transportation fees will be reduced for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Students who attend their designated school and reside at least 2.4 kilometers away
 - Students who attend a District Centre special needs program or an inclusive setting at their designated school

PARKING and SAFETY



It is important children learn good street smarts in order to arrive at school and get home safely. Please help us keep them safe by:

- Obeying all parking signs
- Using crosswalks instead of jay walking
- Not making U-turns.



WALK THIS WAY

Pedestrian Safety Tips



DID YOU KNOW...back to basics when it comes to driving. Yes, safe driving is important at all times, but it's especially essential when children are going to and from school.

Youngsters aren't always as alert as they should be. So, you need to be more alert for school buses, crossings, pedestrians and more. Heed the signs, signals and above all...slow down. It's the safe thing to do...

Bus Parking Zone

The bus parking zone in front of the school is closed to cars between the hours of 8:15 to 4:00, as this space is strictly designated for buses. Buses are not allowed to load and unload on the street. Vehicles in this zone make it unsafe for children and drivers. Please consider parking down the street to the west or the east when dropping your children off at the school.



PATROLS



We will have school patrols this year and we ask everyone to co-operate with them as they diligently help our students cross the street in front of our school. Please do not park across the crosswalks or impede the patrollers' view. Always obey their signs when they are held out for the students to cross the street.

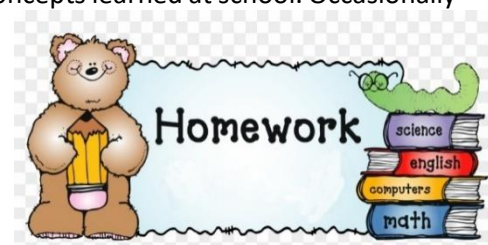
Staff Parking Lot

Due to the **limited amount of parking space available in the parking lot** it is necessary to limit the parking to staff members. Parents and members of the community are asked to park on the street. In order to ensure the safety of our students **THE PARKING LOT IS NOT TO BE USED AS A DROP OFF OR PICK UP AREA, OR AS AN AREA TO TURN THE CAR AROUND.**

ASSESSMENT PLAN/HOMEWORK POLICY

Please see SchoolZone or Tipaskan's website for detailed descriptions of our Assessment Practices. Homework and home study are intended to reinforce curriculum concepts learned at school. Occasionally homework may be sent home with these criteria in mind:

- Work a student did not complete at school
- A special project requiring more time
- Preparation for assessment tasks (quizzes unit tests etc.)



It is strongly recommended that students keep track of daily homework or home study in a student agenda, and/or Schoolzone. Students are encouraged to **read** on a nightly basis.



LUNCH PROGRAM

What do you need to know?

- Lunch break is from 11:35 am – 12: 15 pm. Tipaskan's lunch program will run as follows:

Lunch Recess-Outside	11:35-11:55 a.m. - Gr's-K, 1, 2, and 3
Eat Lunch	11:35-11:55 a.m. - Gr's 4, 5, and 6
Lunch Recess-Outside	11:55-12:15 p.m. - Gr's 4, 5, and 6
Eat Lunch	11:55-12:15 p.m. -Gr's-K, 1, 2, and 3

Lunch itself is not provided by Tipaskan. Students who remain at the school during lunch hour are expected to bring their own lunch, including utensils from home. **Please note there will be no microwaves available in the classrooms, so please use a thermos to keep food warm, or pack a lunch for your child that does not require heating.**

- Students are asked to take any extra or unwanted/unfinished food home in their lunch kits. This will allow you to have a better understanding of how much your child ate, and reduce the amount of wasted food.
- Students in the lunch program must remain on school property for the entire lunch hour period.
- Students are expected to go outside for the recess period. The only time students will be permitted to remain inside and be involved in alternative activities is when it rains or temperatures drop to below -23 degrees Celsius. Please dress accordingly.
- Students who participate in the lunch program are supervised by Educational Assistant's/Lunch Supervisors while they eat. Lunch supervisors are hired from within our community they are paid from lunch fees collected.

GLOBAL PAYMENTS-CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ARE ACCEPTED THROUGH THE FOLLOWING CHANNELS

- **ONLINE ONLY (SCHOOLZONE/FMS)**
- **IN-PERSON ONLY-Transaction Manually Entered by Administrative Assistant**
- **BOTH ONLINE AND IN PERSON**

Payment can be made by: Cheque payable to: TIPASKAN SCHOOL - Cash-Exact Amount



CASH IS ALSO ACCEPTED- LUNCH PROGRAM

We believe a break from the school building and from school routines with a good walk in the fresh air are important for school age children. Therefore, at lunch, we strongly recommend ALL STUDENTS GO HOME (or wherever noon hour arrangements have been made) if at all possible. However, students who must remain at the school during this time, may do so for fee that covers the cost of supervision by external staff and are expected to provide their own lunch.

Please note, due to Occupational Health and Safety standards that must be met, **microwaves will not be provided for student use.** Students wishing to bring hot food for lunch, may wish to consider purchasing a thermos to keep food warm.

Lunch Program Expectations

- ✓ Bring lunches that are ready to eat. Microwaves and utensils are not provided.
- ✓ Respect staff and students.
- ✓ Stay seated while eating lunch.
- ✓ Use inside (quiet) voices.
- ✓ No throwing any objects (including food items).
- ✓ Try to visit the washroom **before** having lunch.
- ✓ Students must remain on school property during lunch recess.
- ✓ Students will be expected to go outside to play following lunch.
- ✓ The only time students will be permitted to remain inside and be involved in alternative activities is when it rains and temperatures drop to below -23 degrees Celsius. Please dress accordingly.
- ✓ No use of cell phones/ipods in during lunch.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Parents are encouraged to mark students' personal property with their last name. This helps in locating lost or misplaced items.

Electronic Devices: May be used as a tool for learning as directed by teachers. Devices are not to be used at school for any other purpose without the permission and supervision of an adult staff member.

Toys: TOYS: If a child wishes to bring a toy to school to play with at recess, it must be kept in his/her backpack during class time, the school is not liable for student owned devices, toys that are lost, stolen, damaged or broken.

Bicycles: Students must lock their bikes securely to the racks provided.

Skateboards, roller blades, and scooters: For safety reasons these are not to be used on school property during school hours.

Lost and Found Items: Please check with your child's teacher regarding any lost items.





School Supplies: Basic textbooks are provided for all students from kindergarten to year 6 classes. All students need an extra pair of running shoes for indoor use.

A list of supplies to purchase is posted on SchooZone and our website tipaskan@epsb.ca . Parents are responsible for replacing supplies as needed. Parents can also order school supplies through School Start, this is on our school website tipaskan@epsb.ca .

Money: When it is necessary for you to send money to the school with your child to cover the cost of our lunch program, lost books, school portraits, fundraisers or other needs, please enclose **the exact amount** in an envelope and write your child's name and room number on the outside of the envelope.



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Volunteers play a very important role in the programs at Tipaskan and are involved in many varied activities ranging from assistance in the library, the classroom, helping with hot lunches, field trips, etc...all of which ultimately benefit the children. We are very fortunate to have so many people in our community who are willing to donate their time to help in our school. When parents volunteer, the school benefits, their children benefit, and the volunteers themselves benefit.

If anyone is interested in volunteering his/her time, talk to the classroom teacher or call the school office (780 462 -5031). Volunteers will need to fill out a "Volunteer Form" and have a police record check completed.



TIPASKAN PARENT ADVISORY ASSOCIATION PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Tipaskan Parent Council is a collective association of parents, teachers, principal, all working together to promote the well-being and effectiveness of the entire school community, thereby enhancing student learning. Our school council is a means to facilitate co-operation among all concerned participants in our school.

Tipaskan Parent Advisory Association/Tipaskan
School Council meeting dates will be announced
through SchoolZone.

Tipaskan School Council



2025–26 School Year Calendar



AUGUST • 2025

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SEPTEMBER • 2025

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OCTOBER • 2025

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NOVEMBER • 2025

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DECEMBER • 2025

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JANUARY • 2026

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FEBRUARY • 2026

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MARCH • 2026

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APRIL • 2026

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MAY • 2026

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JUNE • 2026

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LEGEND

	Public Holiday
	PD Day (no students)
	First/Last Day of Classes
	Operational Day (no students)
	Teachers' Convention
	Teachers' Day in Lieu (no teachers or students)
	Board Approved Non-instructional Day (no teachers or students)
	Winter/Spring Break

Important dates

First Operational Day (no students)	August 29
First Day of Classes	September 2
Winter Break	Dec. 22–Jan. 2
Teachers' Convention	February 26–27
Spring Break	Mar. 30–Apr. 2
Last Day of Classes	June 23
Last Operational Day	June 24

Approved holidays

Labour Day	September 1
The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	September 30
Thanksgiving	October 13
Remembrance Day	November 11
Christmas Day	December 25
Boxing Day	December 26
New Year's Day	January 1
Family Day	February 16
Good Friday	April 3
Easter Monday	April 6
Victoria Day	May 18

Dates of significance

Yom Kippur	October 2
Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas	October 20
Winter Solstice	December 21
Lunar New Year	February 17
Eid al-Fitr	March 20
Eid al-Adha	May 27
National Indigenous Peoples Day and Summer Solstice	June 21

D25 – December 20, 2024

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES

1. "Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." - Albert Schweitzer
2. "Believe you can and you're halfway there." - Theodore Roosevelt
3. "The only way to do great work is to love what you do." - Steve Jobs
4. "Your time is limited, don't waste it living someone else's life." - Steve Jobs
5. "The future depends on what you do today." - Mahatma Gandhi
6. "Don't watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going." - Sam Levenson
7. "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." - Winston Churchill
8. "The secret to getting ahead is getting started." - Mark Twain
9. "The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." - B.B. King
10. "Dream big and dare to fail." - Norman Vaughan
11. "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." - C.S. Lewis
12. "The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today." - Franklin D. Roosevelt

